

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
DISTRICT OF NEVADA**

SHIGE TAKIGUCHI, FUMI NONAKA,  
MITSUAKI TAKITA, KAORUKO KOIZUMI,  
TATSURO SAKAI, SHIZUKO ISHIMORI,  
YOKO HATANO, YUKO NAKAMURA,  
HIDEHITO MIURA, YOSHIKO TAZAKI,  
MASAAKI MORIYA, HATSUNE HATANO,  
SATORU MORIYA, HIDENAO TAKAMA,  
SHIGERU KURISU, SAKA ONO, KAZUHIRO  
MATSUMOTO, KAYA HATANAKA, IROKA  
YAMAJIRI, KIYOHARU YAMAMOTO,  
JUNKO YAMAMOTO, KOICHI INOUE,  
AKIKO NARUSE, TOSHIMASA NOMURA,  
and RITSU YURIKUSA, Individually and On  
Behalf of All Others Similarly Situated,

## Plaintiffs,

V.

MRI INTERNATIONAL, INC., EDWIN J. FUJINAGA, JUNZO SUZUKI, PAUL MUSASHI SUZUKI, LVT, INC., dba STERLING ESCROW, and DOES 1-500.

## Defendants.

Case No. 2:13-cv-01183-HDM-VCF

## STIPULATED PROTECTIVE ORDER

## 1. PURPOSES AND LIMITATIONS

Discovery in this action is likely to involve production of confidential, proprietary, or private information for which special protection may be warranted. Accordingly, the parties hereby stipulate to and petition the court to enter the following Stipulated Protective Order. The parties acknowledge that this agreement is consistent with LCR 26(c). It does not confer blanket protection on all disclosures or responses to discovery, the protection it affords from public disclosure and use extends only to the limited information or items that are entitled to confidential

1 treatment under the applicable legal principles, and it does not presumptively entitle parties to file  
 2 confidential information under seal.

3 2. **“CONFIDENTIAL” MATERIAL**

4 “Confidential” material shall include information (regardless of how it is generated, stored  
 5 or maintained) or tangible things that qualify for protection under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure  
 6 26(c).

7 3. **SCOPE**

8 The protections conferred by this agreement cover not only confidential material (as  
 9 defined above), but also (1) any information copied or extracted from confidential material; (2) all  
 10 copies, excerpts, summaries, or compilations of confidential material; and (3) any testimony,  
 11 conversations, or presentations by parties or their counsel that might reveal confidential material.  
 12 However, the protections conferred by this agreement do not cover information that is in the  
 13 public domain or becomes part of the public domain through trial or otherwise.

14 4. **ACCESS TO AND USE OF CONFIDENTIAL MATERIAL**

15 4.1 **Basic Principles.** A receiving party may use confidential material that is disclosed  
 16 or produced by another party or by a non-party in connection with this case only for prosecuting,  
 17 defending, or attempting to settle this litigation. Confidential material may be disclosed only to the  
 18 categories of persons and under the conditions described in this agreement. Confidential material  
 19 must be stored and maintained by a receiving party at a location and in a secure manner that  
 20 ensures that access is limited to the persons authorized under this agreement.

21 4.2 **Disclosure of “CONFIDENTIAL” Information or Items.** Unless otherwise ordered  
 22 by the court or permitted in writing by the designating party, a receiving party may disclose any  
 23 confidential material only to:

24 (a) the receiving party’s counsel of record in this action, as well as employees of  
 25 counsel to whom it is reasonably necessary to disclose the information for this litigation;

26 (b) the officers, directors, and employees (including in house counsel) of the  
 27 receiving party to whom disclosure is reasonably necessary for this litigation;

(c) experts and consultants to whom disclosure is reasonably necessary for this litigation and who have signed the “Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be Bound” (Exhibit A);

(d) the court, court personnel, and court reporters and their staff;

4 (e) copy or imaging services retained by counsel to assist in the duplication of  
5 confidential material, provided that counsel for the party retaining the copy or imaging service  
6 instructs the service not to disclose any confidential material to third parties and to immediately  
7 return all originals and copies of any confidential material;

8 (f) during their depositions, witnesses in the action to whom disclosure is  
9 reasonably necessary and who have signed the "Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be Bound"  
10 (Exhibit A), unless otherwise agreed by the designating party or ordered by the court. Pages of  
11 transcribed deposition testimony or exhibits to depositions that reveal confidential material must  
12 be separately bound by the court reporter and may not be disclosed to anyone except as permitted  
13 under this agreement;

14 (g) the author or recipient of a document containing the information or a custodian  
15 or other person who otherwise possessed or knew the information.

16       4.3     Filing Confidential Material. Before filing confidential material or discussing or  
17 referencing such material in court filings, the filing party shall confer with the designating party to  
18 determine whether the designating party will remove the confidential designation, whether the  
19 document can be redacted, or whether a motion to seal or stipulation and proposed order is  
20 warranted. Local Civil Rule 10-5 sets forth the procedures that must be followed and the standards  
21 that will be applied when a party seeks permission from the court to file material under seal.

22 | P a g e | 5. DESIGNATING PROTECTED MATERIAL

23        5.1    Exercise of Restraint and Care in Designating Material for Protection. Each party  
24 or non-party that designates information or items for protection under this agreement must take  
25 care to limit any such designation to specific material that qualifies under the appropriate  
26 standards. The designating party must designate for protection only those parts of material,  
27 documents, items, or oral or written communications that qualify, so that other portions of the

1 material, documents, items, or communications for which protection is not warranted are not  
 2 swept unjustifiably within the ambit of this agreement.  
 3 Mass, indiscriminate, or routinized designations are prohibited. Designations that are shown to be  
 4 clearly unjustified or that have been made for an improper purpose (e.g., to unnecessarily  
 5 encumber or delay the case development process or to impose unnecessary expenses and burdens  
 6 on other parties) expose the designating party to sanctions.  
 7 If it comes to a designating party's attention that information or items that it designated for  
 8 protection do not qualify for protection, the designating party must promptly notify all other  
 9 parties that it is withdrawing the mistaken designation.

10       5.2     Manner and Timing of Designations. Except as otherwise provided in this  
 11 agreement (see, e.g., second paragraph of section 5.2(a) below), or as otherwise stipulated or  
 12 ordered, disclosure or discovery material that qualifies for protection under this agreement must be  
 13 clearly so designated before or when the material is disclosed or produced.

14               (a) Information in documentary form: (e.g., paper or electronic documents and  
 15 deposition exhibits, but excluding transcripts of depositions or other pretrial or trial proceedings),  
 16 the designating party must affix the word "CONFIDENTIAL" to each page that contains  
 17 confidential material. If only a portion or portions of the material on a page qualifies for  
 18 protection, the producing party also must clearly identify the protected portion(s) (e.g., by making  
 19 appropriate markings in the margins).

20               (b) Testimony given in deposition or in other pretrial or trial proceedings: the  
 21 parties must identify on the record, during the deposition, hearing, or other proceeding, all  
 22 protected testimony, without prejudice to their right to so designate other testimony after  
 23 reviewing the transcript. Any party or non-party may, within fifteen days after receiving a  
 24 deposition transcript, designate portions of the transcript, or exhibits thereto, as confidential.

25               (c) Other tangible items: the producing party must affix in a prominent place on the  
 26 exterior of the container or containers in which the information or item is stored the word  
 27 "CONFIDENTIAL." If only a portion or portions of the information or item warrant protection,  
 28 the producing party, to the extent practicable, shall identify the protected portion(s).

1       5.3     Inadvertent Failures to Designate. If timely corrected, an inadvertent failure to  
 2 designate qualified information or items does not, standing alone, waive the designating party's  
 3 right to secure protection under this agreement for such material. Upon timely correction of a  
 4 designation, the receiving party must make reasonable efforts to ensure that the material is treated  
 5 in accordance with the provisions of this agreement.

6       6.     CHALLENGING CONFIDENTIALITY DESIGNATIONS

7       6.1     Timing of Challenges. Any party or non-party may challenge a designation of  
 8 confidentiality at any time. Unless a prompt challenge to a designating party's confidentiality  
 9 designation is necessary to avoid foreseeable, substantial unfairness, unnecessary economic  
 10 burdens, or a significant disruption or delay of the litigation, a party does not waive its right to  
 11 challenge a confidentiality designation by electing not to mount a challenge promptly after the  
 12 original designation is disclosed.

13       6.2     Meet and Confer. The parties must make every attempt to resolve any dispute  
 14 regarding confidential designations without court involvement. Any motion regarding confidential  
 15 designations or for a protective order must include a certification, in the motion or in a declaration  
 16 or affidavit, that the movant has engaged in a good faith meet and confer conference with other  
 17 affected parties in an effort to resolve the dispute without court action. The certification must list  
 18 the date, manner, and participants to the conference. A good faith effort to confer requires a face-  
 19 to-face meeting or a telephone conference.

20       6.3     Judicial Intervention. If the parties cannot resolve a challenge without court  
 21 intervention, the designating party may file and serve a motion to retain confidentiality under  
 22 Local Rule 7-2. The burden of persuasion in any such motion shall be on the designating party.  
 23 Frivolous challenges, and those made for an improper purpose (e.g., to harass or impose  
 24 unnecessary expenses and burdens on other parties) may expose the challenging party to sanctions.  
 25 All parties shall continue to maintain the material in question as confidential until the court rules  
 26 on the challenge.

27       7.     PROTECTED MATERIAL SUBPOENAED OR ORDERED PRODUCED IN OTHER  
 28           LITIGATION

1        If a party is served with a subpoena or a court order issued in other litigation that compels  
 2 disclosure of any information or items designated in this action as “CONFIDENTIAL,” that party  
 3 must:

4                (a) promptly notify the designating party in writing and include a copy of the subpoena or  
 5 court order;

6                (b) promptly notify in writing the party who caused the subpoena or order to issue in the  
 7 other litigation that some or all of the material covered by the subpoena or order is subject to this  
 8 agreement. Such notification shall include a copy of this agreement; and

9                (c) cooperate with respect to all reasonable procedures sought to be pursued by the  
 10 designating party whose confidential material may be affected.

11 8.        **A NON-PARTY’S PROTECTED MATERIAL SOUGHT TO BE PRODUCED IN THIS**  
 12                **LITIGATION**

13                (a) The terms of this Order are applicable to information produced by a Non-Party  
 14 in this action and designated as “CONFIDENTIAL.” Such information produced by Non-Parties  
 15 in connection with this litigation is protected by the remedies and relief provided by this Order.  
 16 Nothing in these provisions should be construed as prohibiting a Non-Party from seeking  
 17 additional protections.

18                (b) In the event that a Party is required, by a valid discovery request, to produce a Non-  
 19 Party’s confidential information in its possession, and the Party is subject to an agreement with the  
 20 Non-Party not to produce the Non-Party’s confidential information, then the Party shall:

21                        (1) promptly notify in writing the Requesting Party and the Non-Party that some or  
 22 all of the information requested is subject to a confidentiality agreement with a Non-Party;

23                        (2) promptly provide the Non-Party with a copy of the Stipulated Protective Order  
 24 in this litigation, the relevant discovery request(s), and a reasonably specific description of the  
 25 information requested; and

26                        (3) make the information requested available for inspection by the Non-Party.

27                (c) If the Non-Party fails to object or seek a protective order from this court within 14  
 28 days of receiving the notice and accompanying information, the Receiving Party may produce the

1 Non-Party's confidential information responsive to the discovery request. If the Non-Party timely  
 2 seeks a protective order, the Receiving Party shall not produce any information in its possession or  
 3 control that is subject to the confidentiality agreement with the Non-Party before a determination  
 4 by the court. Absent a court order to the contrary, the Non-Party shall bear the burden and  
 5 expense of seeking protection in this court of its Protected Material.

6 **9. UNAUTHORIZED DISCLOSURE OF PROTECTED MATERIAL**

7 If a receiving party learns that, by inadvertence or otherwise, it has disclosed confidential  
 8 material to any person or in any circumstance not authorized under this agreement, the receiving  
 9 party must immediately (a) notify in writing the designating party of the unauthorized disclosures,  
 10 (b) use its best efforts to retrieve all unauthorized copies of the protected material,  
 11 (c) inform the person or persons to whom unauthorized disclosures were made of all the terms of  
 12 this agreement, and (d) request that such person or persons execute the "Acknowledgment and  
 13 Agreement to Be Bound" that is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

14 **10. INADVERTENT PRODUCTION OF PRIVILEGED OR OTHERWISE PROTECTED**  
 15 **MATERIAL**

16 When a producing party gives notice to receiving parties that certain inadvertently  
 17 produced material is subject to a claim of privilege or other protection, the obligations of the  
 18 receiving parties are those set forth in Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(b)(5)(B). This provision  
 19 is not intended to modify whatever procedure may be established in an e-discovery order or  
 20 agreement that provides for production without prior privilege review. Parties shall confer on an  
 21 appropriate non-waiver order under Fed. R. Evid. 502.

22 **11. NON TERMINATION AND RETURN OF DOCUMENTS**

23 Within 60 days after the termination of this action, including all appeals, each receiving  
 24 party must return all confidential material to the producing party, including all copies, extracts and  
 25 summaries thereof. Alternatively, the parties may agree upon appropriate methods of destruction.  
 26 Notwithstanding this provision, counsel are entitled to retain one archival copy of all documents  
 27 filed with the court, trial, deposition, and hearing transcripts, correspondence, deposition and trial

1 exhibits, expert reports, attorney work product, and consultant and expert work product, even if  
2 such materials contain confidential material.

3 The confidentiality obligations imposed by this agreement shall remain in effect until a  
4 designating party agrees otherwise in writing or a court orders otherwise.

5 Dated: December 17, 2015

MANNING & KASS,  
ELLROD, RAMIREZ, TRESTER LLP

7 By: /s/ James Gibbons  
8 JAMES E. GIBBONS  
9 Attorneys for Plaintiffs

10 HITZKE & ASSOCIATES

11 By: /s/ Erick Ferran  
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22 SKLAR WILLIAMS PLLC

23 By: /s/ Robert Goldstein  
24 ROBERT A. GOLDSTEIN  
25 Attorneys for Defendant LVT, Inc.,  
26 dba Sterling Escrow

27 IT IS SO STIPULATED, THROUGH COUNSEL OF RECORD.

28 PURSUANT TO STIPULATION, IT IS SO ORDERED.

29 DATED: December 18, 2015

  
30 Hon. Cam Ferenbach  
31 United States Magistrate Judge

**EXHIBIT A**

## ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND AGREEMENT TO BE BOUND

3 I, \_\_\_\_\_ [print or type full name], of \_\_\_\_\_  
4 [print or type full address], declare under penalty of perjury that I have read in its entirety and  
5 understand the Stipulated Protective Order that was issued by the United States District Court for  
6 Nevada on [date] in the case of \_\_\_\_\_ **[insert formal name of the case and the number**  
7 **and initials assigned to it by the court]**. I agree to comply with and to be bound by all the terms of  
8 this Stipulated Protective Order and I understand and acknowledge that failure to so comply could  
9 expose me to sanctions and punishment in the nature of contempt. I solemnly promise that I will not  
10 disclose in any manner any information or item that is subject to this Stipulated Protective Order to  
11 any person or entity except in strict compliance with the provisions of this Order.

I further agree to submit to the jurisdiction of the United States District Court for Nevada for the purpose of enforcing the terms of this Stipulated Protective Order, even if such enforcement proceedings occur after termination of this action.

I hereby appoint \_\_\_\_\_ [print or type full name] of  
\_\_\_\_\_ [print or type full address and telephone number] as  
my agent for service of process in connection with this action or any proceedings related to  
enforcement of this Stipulated Protective Order.

• Date:

City and State where sworn and signed:

Printed name:

6 | Signature:

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on December 17, 2015, a copy of the foregoing document was filed electronically via the Court's CM/ECF system. Pursuant to Local Rule 5.5(h), notice of filing will be served on all parties by operation of the Court's CM/ECF system, and parties may access this filing through the Court's CM/ECF system.

/s/ Mariko Taenaka

Mariko Taenaka

**MANNING & KASS**  
**ELLROD, RAMIREZ, TRESTER LLP**  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW